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(54) Furring piece in conservatory construction

(57) A lean-to conservatory construction has a sloping roof (10) mounted on a side wall, with a plastics furring piece (29) therebetween. The furring piece is formed by diagonal cutting of a rectangular section extrusion having an outer wall (30) and intersecting intermediate walls (33 and 34) forming ducts.

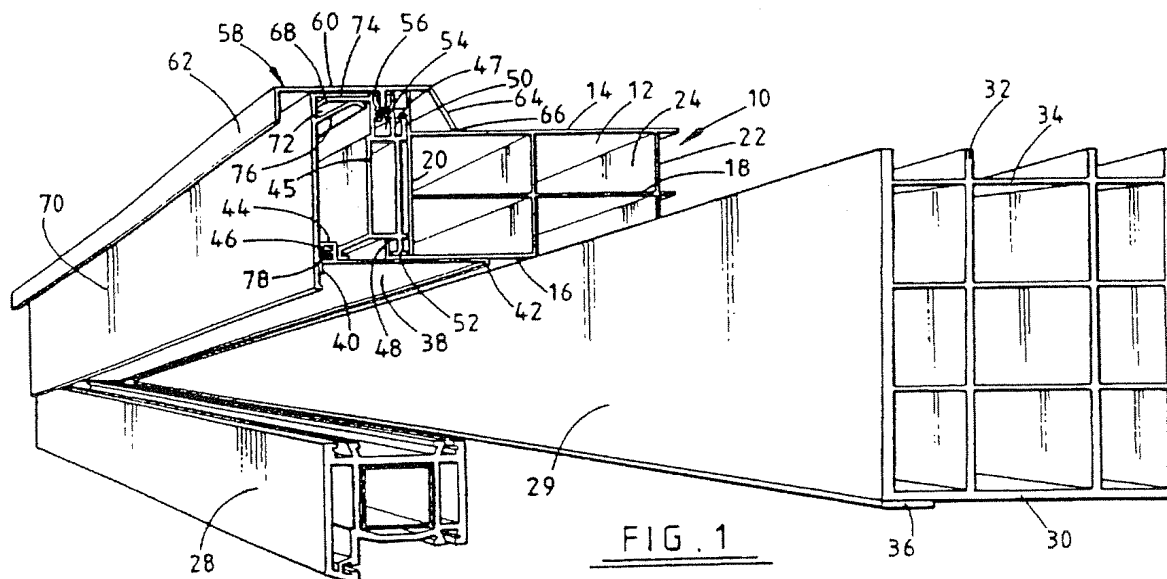
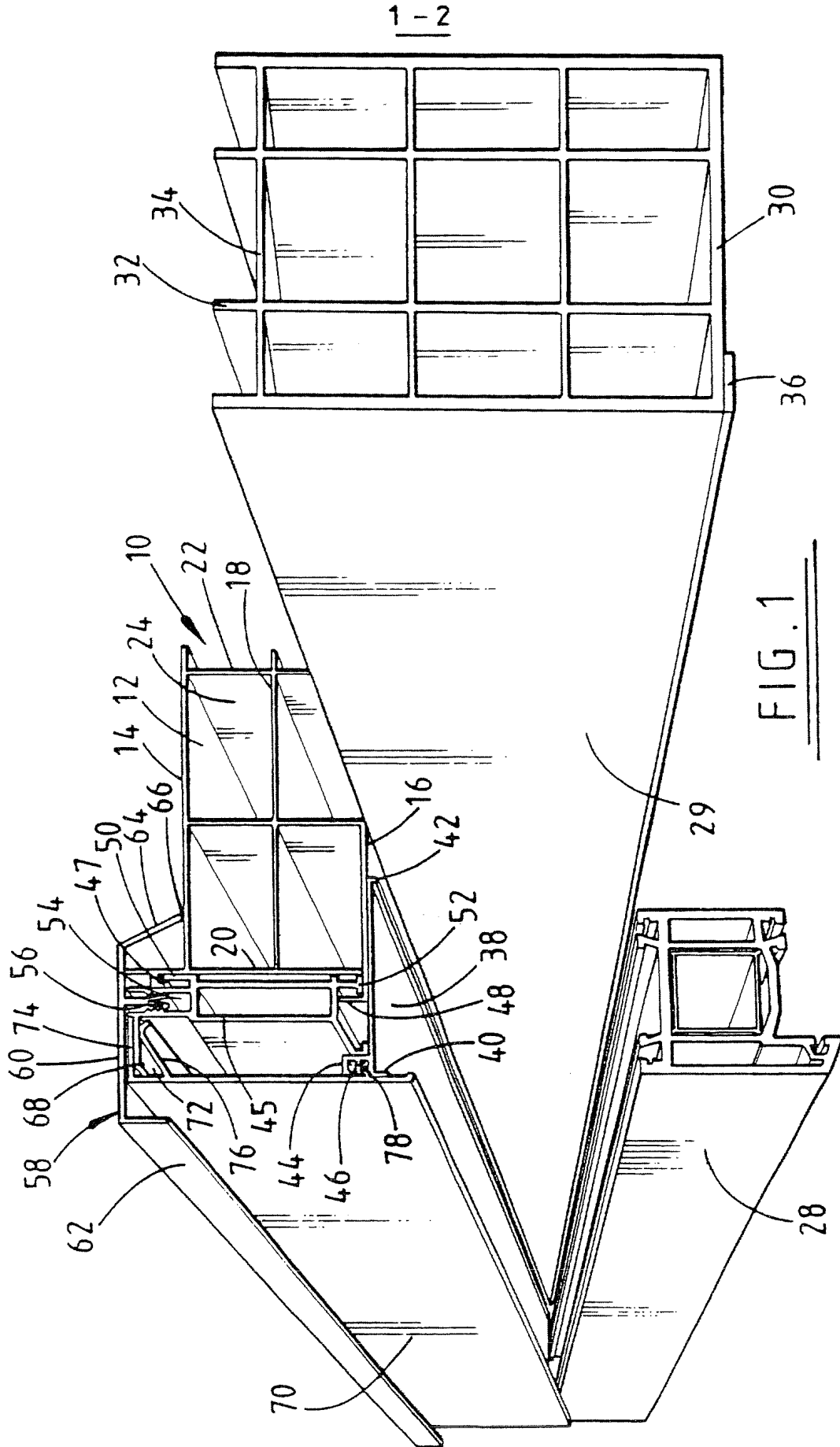


FIG. 1

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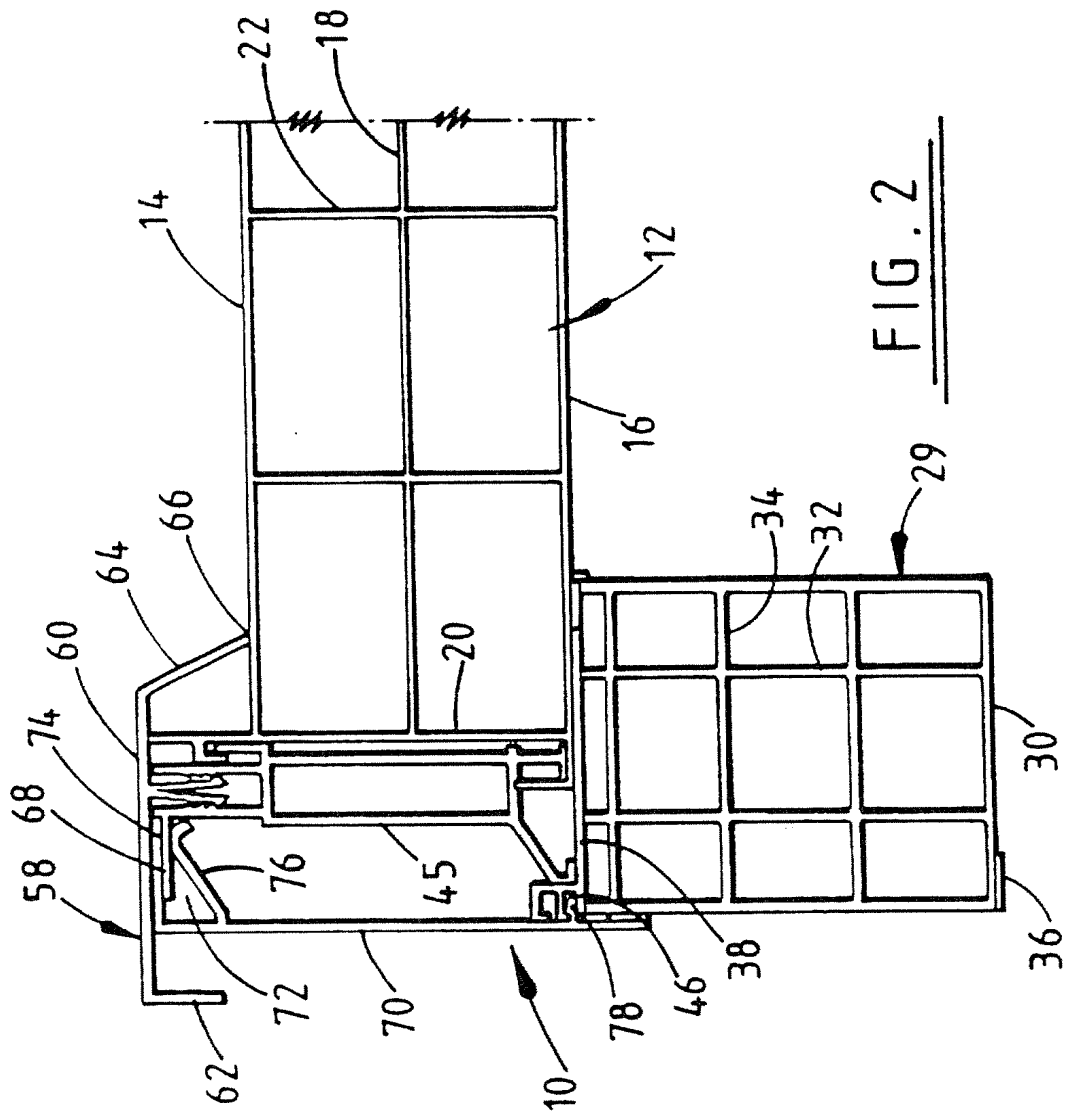


FIG. 2

TITLE: Glazed Structures

DESCRIPTION

5 This invention concerns glazed structures, such as conservatories.

10 There are problems associated with constructing conservatories of the lean-to type, ie which have a sloping roof extending from an existing wall. The sloping roof may be supported at each end on side walls of the conservatory or on one side wall of the conservatory and an existing wall. In order to fill in the space between the sloping roof and the conservatory side wall special wooden firring pieces have to be cut and fitted. When the conservatory is constructed from U-PVC the wooden firring pieces have to be covered with special U-PVC cover trims so as not to spoil the appearance. The manufacture of the firring pieces and trims is time consuming and hence increases the cost of lean-to conservatory installation.

20 An object of this invention is to provide a simpler lean-to conservatory construction.

According to the invention it is proposed that firring pieces for lean-to conservatory construction be made from plastics material.

25 Preferred firring pieces for use in the invention

are made from plastics extrusions. The preferred extrusion has a rectangular section outer wall and intersecting intermediate walls forming ducts through the extrusion. The provision of intersecting intermediate walls provides structural strength whilst reducing weight compared to a solid extrusion.

As most furring pieces will be required to fill under a sloping roof a single extrusion may be cut diagonally from one end to the other to provide two furring pieces of the same size and shape, so that they can be used at opposite ends of the roof.

When a conservatory is being erected, there is often a need to compensate for differences in side wall positioning relative to the roof position at junctions thereof. The invention further provides a system for such compensation that may include the afore-mentioned furring pieces of the invention.

The glazing panel at the end of a conservatory roof is generally connected to a beam on which a capping member is fixed, the capping member preferably having gasket means provided or integral therewith to seal between an edge of the capping and a top surface of the glazing panel. The capping preferably has a depending formation that is a push fit into a channel of the beam.

Preferably a cap is provided intermediate the

glazing beam and the firring piece whose position is laterally adjustable relative to the glazing beam and the cap preferably has a location for fixing a fascia board thereto, so that the cap, fascia board and the
5 firring piece may be repositioned laterally as necessary to compensate for the relative positions of the glazing beam and the underlying conservatory side wall.

The glazing beam preferably further provides an
10 upper location for the fascia board preferably by means of a sliding interfitment. The beam preferably has a lateral flange and the fascia board a slot into which the flange fits. Preferably at least one face of the slit is resiliently deformable tending to close the
15 slot to provide grip on the flange.

The invention will now be further described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:-

Figure 1 is a perspective view of part of a lean-
20 to conservatory; and

Figure 2 is an end view of the same conservatory.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, a lean-to conservatory generally comprises two side walls with sloping top edges, a front wall and a sloping roof 10.
25 The roof 10 comprises translucent plastics panels 12, which in the present case have top, bottom and

intermediate walls 14, 16 and 18 respectively, end walls 20 and intermediate walls 22 parallel to the end walls in order to form ducts 24. The form of the roofing panels is not, however, essential to the present invention.

The side walls include a beam 26 which is generally horizontal. The sloping roof is mounted on that beam with a firring piece 29 therebetween to bridge the gap. The firring piece 29 is made from a plastics extrusion that is cut diagonally along its length to produce two firring pieces of the same size and overall shape that can be used at opposite ends of a lean-to conservatory. The extrusion has a rectangular section outer wall 30 and intersecting intermediate vertical and horizontal walls 32 and 34 respectively, so that, in effect, the extrusion is ducted. The intermediate walls 32 and 34 provide strength whilst reducing the weight of the firring pieces. On its underside the firring piece 29 has a strip of double sided sealing tape 36 to bond same to the beam 26. On top of the firring piece 28 is a cap 38 which has depending edges 40 and 42 so that it sits snugly onto the firring piece. The intended outer edge of the cap 38 has a formation 44 along its edge providing an outwardly open lipped slot 46.

The glazing panel 12 is connected to a glazing beam 45. The panel 12 has upper and lower formations

47, 48 respectively that interfit with formations 50, 52 respectively of the beam 45. The panel and beam assembly sit on the cap 38 on the furring piece 29.

5 The glazing beam 45 has an upwardly open channel 54 into which fits a depending formation 56 of a capping piece 58 as a push-fit. The capping piece 58 has flat central section 60 with a depending flange 62 from its intended outer edge, a sloping section 64 from the central section to meet the top surface of the panel 12 and gasket material 66, preferably formed integrally with the edge of the sloping section 64 of the capping piece 58, in order to seal between the capping piece and the panel 12.

15 Extending laterally outwards from the beam 45 is a flange 68. This flange together with the lipped slot 46 of the furring cap 38 provide locations for attachment of a fascia panel 70. The fascia panel 70 has a slot formation 72 at its upper end with convergent side walls 74 and 76 at least of which side wall 76 is resiliently deformable and tends to close the slot. The flange 68 is a sliding fit into the slot 72 near its lower end the fascia panel has lipped projection 78 which fits into the slot 46 of the furring cap 38. Thus, the fascia panel can be push fitted to the assembly prior to the fitting of the capping piece 58. 25 The capping piece 58 is made sufficiently wide that the

firring 29, the firring cap 38 and the fascia panel 70 can be repositioned as a whole laterally relative to the glazing beam 45 and the glazing panel 12. This allows for adjustments to be made when the conservatory is being erected to compensate for variations in the relative positioning of the conservatory side walls and the roof ends.

CLAIMS

1. A furring piece for a lean-to conservatory construction made of plastics material.

2. A furring piece as claimed in claim 1, made from
5 a plastics extrusion.

3. A furring piece as claimed in claim 2, formed from a plastics extrusion, having a rectangular section outer wall and intersecting intermediate walls forming ducts therethrough, cut diagonally therethrough from one
10 end to the other.

4. A furring piece substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

5. A conservatory construction having a sloping roof supported on a side wall with a furring piece as claimed
15 in any one of claims 1 to 4 therebetween.

6. A conservatory construction as claimed in claim 5, wherein a glazing panel at the end of the roof is connected to a beam on which a capping member is fixed.

7. A conservatory construction as claimed in claim 6, wherein the capping member has gasket means to seal
20 between an edge of the capping and a top surface of the glazing panel.

8. A conservatory construction as claimed in claim 7, wherein the gasket means is integrally formed with
25

the capping member.

9. A conservatory construction as claimed in claim 6, 7 or 8, wherein the capping member has a depending formation that is a push-fit into a channel of the beam.

5 10. A conservatory construction as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 9, wherein a cap is provided intermediate the glazing beam and the firring piece, whose position is laterally adjustable relative to the glazing beam.

10 11. A conservatory construction as claimed in claim 10, wherein the cap has location for fixing a fascia board thereto.

12. A conservatory construction as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 11, wherein the glazing beam provides an upper location for a fascia board.

15 13. A conservatory construction as claimed in claim 12, wherein the said upper location involves sliding interfitment.

20 14. A conservatory construction as claimed in claim 12 or 13, wherein the glazing beam has a lateral flange and the fascia board a slot into which the flange fits.

15. A conservatory construction as claimed in claim 14, wherein one face of the slot is resiliently deformable tending to close the slot.

25 16. A conservatory construction substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.



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Claims searched: 1-16

Examiner: D J Lovell
Date of search: 8 May 1996

Patents Act 1977
Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:
UK CI (Ed.O): EID (DCA, DCX, DF124, DF146, DDV)
Int CI (Ed.6): E04B, E04C, E04D, E04F, F16S
Other: On-line database - Derwent W.P.I

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
X	GB 2228754 A Kabe Husvagnar AB	1,2
X	GB 1244304 Bee	1,2
X	EP 0398586 A1 Hedemora Engineering	1
X	WO 94/18405 A1 Royal Building Systems	1,2
X	US 5016417 Mentken	1,2
A	US 4635419 Forrest - note references to "firing strips"	

X Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step
Y Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.
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